

Council – 17th October 2023
Recommendation from Cabinet
3rd October 2023

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet held at 2.00 pm on Tuesday, 3rd October 2023

Present:

Members: Councillor G Duggins (Chair)
Councillor A S Khan (Deputy Chair)
Councillor L Bigham
Councillor K Caan
Councillor P Hetherton
Councillor J O'Boyle
Councillor P Seaman
Councillor D Welsh

Non- Voting Deputy
Cabinet Members Councillor S Agboola
Councillor G Hayre
Councillor A Jobbar
Councillor G Lloyd
Councillor S Nazir

Non-Voting Opposition
Members: Councillor G Ridley
Councillor S Gray

Other Non Voting
Members: Councillor N Akhtar
Councillor R Lakha

Employees (by Service area):

Chief Executive J Nugent (Chief Executive)

Adult Services and Housing P Fahy (Director)

Children's Services N Macdonald (Interim Director), N Jeffreys

Finance B Hastie (Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer))

Public Business**RECOMMENDATION****32. Council Youth Justice Plan 2023-2025 Strategy**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Interim Director of Children's Services, that would also be considered at the meeting of Council on 17th October 2023, and which sought endorsement of the Coventry Youth Justice Services (CYJS) – Youth Justice Plan (a copy of which was attached as an Appendix to the report), following its sign-off by its Chair, the Interim Director of Childrens Services.

Youth Justice Services (known as Youth Offending Teams) were established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 with the principal aim being to prevent offending behaviour by children. The Act imposed a duty on each local authority together with its statutory partners, Police, Health, and Probation, to ensure that adequate Youth Justice Services were available in their area.

The key tasks of the service were:

- Management and delivery of community sentences
- Assessing and delivery of Out of Court Disposal interventions
- Assessing and delivery of diversion 2 support to children at risk of entering the Youth Justice System.
- Management and delivery of secure estate sentences and resettlement
- Servicing the Youth Court and Crown Courts (in terms of provision of the court team, Bail & Health Assessments, provision of Pre-Sentence Reports and Stand-down Reports)
- Parenting services and management of Parenting Orders
- Victim services

The legislation also imposed a duty to complete and submit a Youth Justice Plan each year. The Youth Justice Board (YJB) provided a grant to the Service, outlined delivery expectations, and oversaw performance for youth justice services. As part of their grant the YJB had mandated a template for all youth justice plans and thus the Plan has been presented in this format.

The Plan demonstrated, in line with the Youth Justice Board (YJB) grant requirement, the continued delivery of services as set out in s38 Crime and Disorder Act 1998. CYJS had submitted the Plan in line with the mandated YJB structure. The Plan demonstrated the delivery of the Service's functions and the methods for achieving this in line with the grant requirement. The Plan presented an analysis of youth justice provision in Coventry, performance, arrangements for delivery and resourcing, and emerging risks and challenges; this analysis had enabled the formation of a new vision, aligned priorities, and a new improvement and business plan for 2023-25.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet endorses acceptance of the Coventry Youth Justice Plan - 2023-25 Strategy and recommends that the Council endorses the Plan.